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1643

October 30⁵, 1946

122

I approve.
Jenn. S. Byrnes

Unit	Qty	Unit	Qty
1007	100	1007	100
1008	100	1008	100
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operating arm of the National Intelligence Authority. This process cannot be unbiased and objective if it is colored or affected by policy pronouncements which are based on intelligence derived from sources with which CIG is unfamiliar and which it is in no position to evaluate. It is believed that General Vandenberg's requirements in the field of policy orientation can be met by specific directives furnished him by the State Department's representative on the Intelligence Advisory Board after such directives have been considered and cleared by the Department's Advisory Committee on Intelligence (ACI).

Incidentally, the policy statements requested by General Vandenberg would appear not to be covered in the phrase "strategic and national policy intelligence" which paragraph 2 of NIA Directive No. 1 charges CIG with responsibility for furnishing to the President, the State, War, and Navy Departments, and to others.


William Eddy


Donald Russell

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November 4, 1946

My dear General Vandenberg:

I am writing in reply to your letter of October 24, 1946, in which you request that the Department of State reconsider its position of not releasing Policy Statements to serve as a basis for intelligence requirements. Our desire to cooperate fully with the Central Intelligence Group has led to a very thorough study of your request. The problem has been taken up on the highest level where the position of the Department has been reaffirmed, namely that it would be unwise for the Department to furnish its Policy Statements to serve as a basis for either Departmental or national intelligence.

Briefly, the Department's position with regard to its own Policy Statements is that intelligence information should be available to influence Department policy, but that current Department Policy Statements should not be made available to influence intelligence information. For this reason the Policy Statements are not furnished to our own planners and researchers in this office.

The problem is not one of security of the documents, which it is quite clear would be fully protected in CIG. It is the conviction of the Department, however, that the security of the essential information in the Policy Statements would not be insured merely by protection of the documents. If, as stated in paragraph 2 of your letter, a CIG draft of national intelligence requirements for China were to consist of three parts, the first part of which would be "U.S. policy towards China," it would follow that the mobilization of intelligence resources would be made to fit that current policy. With the possible reorientation of that policy, whether in China or in any other country, there would follow presumably a reorientation of the directives for collecting, reporting and processing intelligence. Intelligence would upon, and shifted with, current political foreign policy would, therefore, be a clear indication to a great many workers, and to their contacts, of the evolution of our foreign policy in its most delicate and crucial areas.

Lt. General Hoyt S. Vandenberg
Director, Central Intelligence Group
Washington, D.C.

The Department

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X R-11071015
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Initialed by A-R
on separate note, 11/10/46
A-R

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The Department would deplore any such development for the very good reason that the Department's occasional Policy and Information Statements are off-the-cuff guides to policy officers, subject to constant revision, not considered by the Department as documents either to be quoted or filed for future reference. The same, of course, is not true of basic U.S. foreign policy valid throughout the world, a knowledge of which should be available to all Departments of the Government, such as the open door in economics, the self-determination of sovereign states, the five freedoms of the air, etc.

Although it has been my duty to report that the Department does not feel that it can change its decision not to release Policy Statements, I am instructed to assure you of our desire to cooperate fully in transmitting to you personally and less formally any information on the Department's foreign policy which you may require from time to time. Such information can be readily made available, upon your request, in personal conference with one of your representatives, or in IAS meetings, where I would, as instructed by the Department, furnish policy information required.

Sincerely yours,

William A. Eddy.

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